XXX.—*Descriptions of new Oriental Reptiles and Batrachians.* By G. A. Boulenger.

Draco Walkeri.

Head small; snout hardly as long as the diameter of the orbit; nostrils lateral, directed outwards; tympanum more or less distinct, much smaller than the eye-opening. Upper head-scales unequal, strongly keeled; six to eight upper labials. The male's gular appendage small, about half the length of the head; the appendage merely indicated in the female. Male with a very low nuchal crest. Dorsal scales much larger than ventrals, subequal, mostly with a short, feeble keel. The fore limb stretched forwards extends beyond the tip of the snout; the hind limb reaches the axil. Grey-brown above; a dark spot between the eyes and another in the posterior part of the supraocular region; upper surface of wings spotted with black in the females, brown, blackish in front, in the male; lower surface of wings with a pair of large black spots in front; belly unspotted.

	millim.
Total length	185
Head	15
Width of head	10
Body	57
Fore limb	32
Hind limb	41
Tail	113

Four specimens (one male, two females, and one young) were obtained at Koepang, Timor, by Mr. J. J. Walker, and presented by him to the British Museum.

Calamaria javanica.

Rostral nearly as deep as broad, visible from above; frontal a little longer than broad, shorter than the parietals, thrice as broad as the supraocular; no præocular; one postocular; diameter of the eye nearly equal to its distance from the mouth; four upper labials, second and fourth largest, second and third entering the eye; mental in contact with the anterior chin-shields; posterior chin-shields separated from each other. Scales in thirteen rows. Ventrals 181; anal entire; subcaudals 17. End of tail obtuse. Dark brown above, each scale with a lighter dot; a yellowish collar, inter-

rupted in the middle, some distance behind the head; upper lip and lower parts uniform yellowish.

Total length 185 millim.; tail 13.

Java. A single male specimen, collected by Dr. Ploem.

Coluber phyllophis.

Snout projecting; eye rather large. Rostral much broader than deep, visible from above; nasal sometimes entire or semi-divided; internasals as long as broad or a little longer, at least as long as the præfrontals; frontal once and one third to once and two thirds as long as broad, as long as its distance from the rostral or the end of the snout, a little shorter than the parietals; loreal considerably longer than deep; one præocular, with a subocular below; two postoculars; temporals 2+3 or 3+3; eight (rarely nine) upper labials, fourth and fifth (or fifth and sixth) entering the eye; four or five lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are nearly as long as or longer than the anterior. Scales in twenty-three rows, very strongly keeled, outer row smooth. Ventrals obtusely angulate laterally, 209-220; anal entire or divided; subcaudals 80–96. Young pale olive above, with traces of a few black transverse bands on the anterior part of the body and a brown lateral line on the posterior part of the body and along the tail; labials yellowish, with brown sutures; belly yellowish, with a series of black dots on each side. The adult of a darker coloration, most of the scales and shields having black borders; anterior part of back usually with more or less distinct black cross bands; belly more or less dotted or spotted with black, the posterior ventrals and the subcaudals usually edged with black.

Total length 1800 millim.; tail 380.

China. Several specimens were obtained at Kiu Kiang by Mr. Pratt, and a specimen in the British Museum is stated to be from near Ningpo.

The adult specimens have been referred by Günther to *Elaphis sauromates*, Pall., and the young to a special genus, *Phyllophis carinata*, Gthr. I regard the true *Elaphis sauromates* as a variety of *Coluber quadrilineatus*, Bonnat. (*quaterradiatus*, Gmel.), distinguished by the retention in the adult of the dorsal spots, which in the western form disappear and are replaced by four black stripes. I can find no structural difference between the two forms, and I do not think that young specimens could be surely distinguished. But, as hinted by Strauch and Bedriaga, the present species is quite distinct, differing in the more prominent snout, larger eye,

longer internasals, longer loreal, and very strongly keeled scales, as well as in coloration.

I am compelled to propose a new specific name for this snake, the name *Coluber carinatus* being preoccupied.

Tropidonotus nuchalis.

Head as in *T. natrix*. Eye moderate. Rostral broader than deep, just visible from above; internasals as long as broad or a little broader, as long as the præfrontals; frontal once and one third to once and a half as long as broad, as long as or longer than its distance from the end of the snout, a little shorter than the parietals; loreal as long as deep or deeper than long; one præ- and two or three postoculars; temporals 1 + 1 or 1 + 2; six upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye, fifth very long; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are shorter than the posterior. Scales feebly keeled, of outer row smooth, in fifteen rows. A very distinct groove along the middle of the nape. Ventrals 154–165; anal divided; subcaudals 46–50. Olive above, uniform or with small black spots; an oblique black line below the eye and another between the last two labials; lower parts uniform black, or black in the middle and olive on the sides.

Total length 640 millim.; tail 120.

China. Four specimens were obtained at Ichang by Mr. Pratt.

This snake is closely allied to *T. Swinhonis*, Gthr., from Formosa, of which it has been regarded as a variety by Günther. It differs in the shorter head, the nuchal groove, and the feebly keeled scales.

Tropidonotus asperrimus.

This name is proposed for a very common Ceylonese snake which has hitherto been regarded as a variety of *T. piscator*, Schn. (*quincunciatus*, Schleg.). It differs constantly from its Indian and Malay ally in having the scales much more strongly keeled, the keels forming sharp, strongly raised lines along the hinder part of the body and on the tail; only the outer row of scales is smooth. Ventrals 131–146; subcaudals 64–90. Anterior half of body pale olive or reddish, with two series of alternating large roundish or rhomboidal, dark olive or brown, black-edged spots, which are partly confluent on the vertebral line, and sometimes form a sinuous band; posterior part of body uniform dark olive or olive with blackish

spots arranged quincuncially; two oblique black lines, one below, the other behind the eye; lower parts uniform yellowish.

Total length 820 millim.; tail 210.

Rhacophorus macrotis.

Vomerine teeth in two oblique groups on a level with the front of the choanæ, which are very large. Head nearly as long as broad; skin adherent to the frontoparietals, which are rugose, studded with granules; snout triangular, a little longer than the diameter of the orbit; canthus rostralis angular; loreal region concave; nostril near the tip of the snout; interorbital space (in the middle) not wider than the upper eyelid, the frontoparietal bones narrowing posteriorly; tympanum very distinct, as large as the eye. Fingers long, with a distinct rudiment of web; toes nearly entirely webbed; disks of fingers about half the diameter of the eye, of toes smaller; subarticular tubercles moderate; a very small inner metatarsal tubercle. Tibio-tarsal articulation reaching the tip of the snout; tibia half as long as head and body. Skin smooth, granular on the belly and under the thighs. Grey-brown above, with a few small dark brown spots; loreal region greyish white; a dark brown band from the end of the snout through the nostril, the eye, and the tympanum to the side of the body; on the tympanum this band expands into a large temporal blotch; limbs with ill-defined dark cross bands; hinder side of thighs brown, dotted with white; lower parts whitish speckled with brown.

From snout to vent 78 millim.

A single female specimen, obtained by Mr. Hose at Baram, Borneo.

This *Rhacophorus* belongs to the group of *R. maculatus*. It differs from all the species of that group in the larger tympanum, from *R. maculatus* and *R. cruciger* in the absence of a parieto-squamosal arch and in the larger choanæ, from *R. leucomystax* in the narrower interorbital space and the larger choanæ, and from *R. Colletti* in the shorter hind limbs.

Bufo surdus.

Crown without bony ridges; snout very short, rounded; interorbital space a little narrower than the upper eyelid; no trace of a tympanum; eustachian tubes extremely minute. First finger considerably longer than second; toes one third

webbed, with single subarticular tubercles; a tarsal fold. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the angle of the mouth. Upper parts crowded with small warts, tipped with black asperities. Parotoids short, subquadrangular, as long as broad, close to the eye. Uniform pale olive above, white inferiorly. Male with a subgular vocal sac and black nuptial excrescences on the two inner fingers.

From snout to vent 67 millim.

Allied to *B. viridis*, but distinguished from it by the absence of tympanum, the very short parotoids, and the shorter web between the toes.

A single male specimen from Baluchistan; purchased.

XXXI.—*On the Occurrence of* Pelochelys *in China.*

By G. A. Boulenger.

Dr. A. Strauch's recently published account of the Chelonians in the St. Petersburg Museum * contains, among other interesting information, the description of a Trionychoid of the genus *Pelochelys* obtained at Foo Choo by the late I. Poliakow in 1884.

The history of the two specimens now described is curious. Dr. Strauch tells us that out of a number of Trionychoids obtained by Poliakow at Foo Choo and Shanghai, and referred on first examination to the common *Trionyx chinensis*, Wiegm., two were selected, on account of their large size, to be made into skeletons. When the skeletons were prepared it was found that these specimens not only did not belong to *Trionyx chinensis*, but were not even referable to the genus *Trionyx*, the skull being of an entirely different type. Dr. Strauch, who is so hard on me for my efforts at basing classifications and arranging genera on osteological characters, will admit that in this case the method of study followed by me answers better the requirements of science than mere examination of the skin, as it is probable that were it not for the fact that the Trionychoids in question had been prepared as skeletons we should still be ignorant of the occurrence of *Pelochelys* in China. When dealing with osteological, and

* "Bemerkungen über die Schildkrötensammlung im Zoologischen Museum der kaiserlichen Akademie zu St. Petersburg," Mém. Ac. St. Pétersb. (7) xxxviii. no. 2 (1890).